



SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY SERVICES CREDENTIAL

California has a two-tier credential structure that consists of a sequence of requirements, which the holder is given up to **two** years to complete. The two-year preliminary credential is the first document issued after an individual meets basic credential requirements. Individuals receiving the preliminary credential are making a commitment to complete the process and obtain the clear credential. The clear credential is issued once all credential requirements have been completed. If requirements for the clear credential are not completed before the expiration of the preliminary, the holder will be unable to serve in California's public schools with that credential until those requirements are met and the document renewed.

The Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential authorizes the holder to perform the service designated on the credential (see list below). The service may be performed at any grade level: preschool, K-12, or in classes organized primarily for adults.

- Language, Speech and Hearing
- Language, Speech and Hearing and Audiology
- Language, Speech and Hearing including Special Class Authorization
- Language, Speech and Hearing and Audiology including Special Class Authorization

The Special Class Authorization authorizes the holder to provide instruction and related services to individuals with a primary disability of speech and language impairment or autism, from birth through grade 12, and in classes organized primarily for adults, across the continuum of program options available. The candidate must complete course work in aphasia and in the methods of teaching school subjects, in addition to the course work for the Language, Speech and Hearing authorization.

Individuals may obtain the audiology authorization by one of two methods: 1) obtain a separate Clinical or Rehabilitative Services Credential, or 2) complete the requirements for the audiology authorization as required for the Clinical or Rehabilitative Services Credential and add the authorization to their existing Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential. See Commission leaflet [CL-610](#), entitled *Clinical or Rehabilitative Services Credential* for more information.

Requirements for the Two-Year Preliminary Credential – For Individuals Prepared in California

Effective issuance date January 1, 2007, individuals must satisfy **all** of the following requirements:

1. A [Commission-approved specialized preparation program](#) resulting in the formal recommendation for the credential by the college or university where the program was completed*
2. [Basic Skills Requirement](#). See Commission leaflet [CL-667](#), entitled *Basic Skills Requirement* for additional information.
3. Official transcripts showing a master's degree in speech-language pathology from a regionally-accredited college or university
4. An application must be submitted online by the recommending institution
5. If not previously submitted to the Commission, a completed LiveScan receipt is also required ([form 41-L.S](#)). This form should be given to the credential analyst at the recommending institution prior to online application submission.

**The institution of higher education may recommend the California-prepared candidate for a clear credential instead of a preliminary if the candidate meets all of the requirements for both the preliminary and the clear credential.*

Requirements for the Clear Credential – For Individuals Prepared in California

Effective issuance date January 1, 2007, individuals prepared in California may apply directly to the Commission for the clear credential* by submitting an application packet consisting of **all** of the following:

1. Passing score of 600 on the Educational Testing Services (ETS) Praxis II Speech-Language Pathology Test (Test code 0330). For more information, visit the ETS website at www.ets.org/.
2. A 36-week, full-time, mentored clinical experience or equivalent supervised practicum (commonly known as the Clinical Fellowship Year [CFY]). Verification of completion may be provided on **one** of the following forms:
 - a. [Required Professional Experience Form](#) (Form 77V-21) from the California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board
 - b. [Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Fellowship and Rating Report Form](#) from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)
3. Application ([form 41-4](#)) and [processing fee](#)

**The institution of higher education may recommend the California-prepared candidate for a clear credential instead of a preliminary if the candidate meets all of the requirements for both the preliminary and the clear credential.*

Requirements for the Two-Year Preliminary Credential – For Individuals Prepared Out-of-State

Effective issuance date January 1, 2007, individuals prepared outside of California may apply directly to the Commission for the two-year preliminary credential by submitting an application packet consisting of **all** of the following:

1. Official transcripts showing a master's degree in speech-language pathology from a regionally-accredited college or university
2. [Basic Skills Requirement](#). See Commission leaflet [CL-667](#), entitled *Basic Skills Requirement* for additional information. A One-Year Nonrenewable credential may be issued at the request of a California employing agency pending the basic skills requirement.
3. **One** of the following:

Option 1: Complete, on or after January 1, 1997, a preparation program from a state determined to have equivalent standards to the California Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential (see Table 1 below). This may be verified either a copy of the certificate from the approved state or an eligibility letter from the institution where the program was completed or the state agency responsible for issuing the certificate. The out-of-state program must match the area of certification requested.

Option 2: Hold or verify eligibility for an out-of-state speech-language pathology certificate authorizing service in the K-12 public schools of the state in which the program was completed, verified by either a copy of the certificate or an eligibility letter from the institution where program was completed or the state agency responsible for issuing the certificate. Individuals qualifying by Option 2 must submit official transcripts showing the program included a practicum with school-age children, completed with a grade of "C" or better. Applicants who received a "pass", "credit", or "satisfactory" grade are assumed to have completed the practicum at a level at least equivalent to a grade of "C".
4. Application ([form 41-4](#)), and, if not previously submitted to the Commission, a completed LiveScan receipt ([form 41-LS](#)). Out-of-state residents have the option of submitting two fingerprint cards in lieu of a LiveScan receipt. If submitting fingerprint cards, current fingerprint processing fees must accompany the application packet in addition to the application processing fee. Fingerprint cards may be ordered by sending a request by e-mail to caworders@ctc.ca.gov.
5. Application [processing fee](#)

If all requirements for the preliminary and clear credential are met with the initial application, the individual will be issued the clear credential and not the preliminary.

Requirements for the Clear Credential – For Individuals Prepared Out-of-State

Effective issuance date January 1, 2007, individuals prepared outside of California may apply directly to the Commission for their clear credential by submitting an application packet consisting of **all** of the following:

1. Passing score of 600 on the Educational Testing Services (ETS) Praxis II Speech-Language Pathology Test (Test code 0330). For more information, visit the ETS website at www.ets.org/.

2. A 36-week, full-time, mentored clinical experience or equivalent supervised practicum (commonly known as the Clinical Fellowship Year [CFY]). Verification of completion may be provided on **one** of the following forms:
 - a. [Required Professional Experience Form](#) (Form 77V-21) from the California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board
 - b. [Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Fellowship and Rating Report Form](#) from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)
3. Application ([form 41-4](#)) and [processing fee](#)

If all requirements for the preliminary and clear credential are met with the initial application, the individual will be issued the clear credential and not the preliminary.

Upgrading a Clinical or Rehabilitative Services Credential to a Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential

Individuals who hold a Clinical or Rehabilitative Services Credential may upgrade to the Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential by submitting **all** of the following to the Commission office:

1. Passing score of 600 on the Educational Testing Services (ETS) Praxis II Speech-Language Pathology Test (Test code 0330). For more information, visit the ETS website at www.ets.org/.
2. A 36-week, full-time, mentored clinical experience or equivalent supervised practicum (commonly known as the Clinical Fellowship Year [CFY]). Verification of completion may be provided on **one** of the following forms:
 - a. [Required Professional Experience Form](#) (Form 77V-21) from the California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board
 - b. [Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Fellowship and Rating Report Form](#) from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)
3. Official transcripts showing a master's degree in speech-language pathology from a regionally-accredited college or university (required of holders of **life** Clinical or Rehabilitative Services Credentials only)
4. Application ([form 41-4](#)) and [processing fee](#)

For information regarding the Clinical or Rehabilitative Services Credential authorizing Audiology or Orientation and Mobility, please see Commission leaflet [CL-610](#), entitled *Clinical or Rehabilitative Services Credentials*.

A Note Regarding Medi-Cal Funding Reimbursement

For information on Medi-Cal funding reimbursement for speech-language services, visit the Department of Health Services website at <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/lea/program/Promanual.htm> or submit questions to the mailbox located on the Department's home page at <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/lea/>.

Reference: California Education Code, Section 44265.3 and Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14132.06

TABLE 1**Equivalency for Out-of-State Speech-Language Pathology Services Programs Completed on or after January 1, 1997**

The following list identifies the preparation programs in other states that have been determined by the Commission to be equivalent for the purposes of applying for the Speech-Language Pathology Services Credentials in the categorical areas indicated.

| | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Alabama | LSH |
| Alaska | ---- |
| Arizona | ---- |
| Arkansas | LSH |
| Colorado | AUD, LSH, SCA |
| Connecticut | ---- |
| Delaware | AUD, LSH |
| District of Columbia | ---- |
| Florida | LSH |
| Georgia | ---- |
| Hawaii | ---- |
| Idaho | ---- |
| Illinois | ---- |
| Indiana | LSH |
| Iowa | ---- |
| Kansas | AUD, LSH |
| Kentucky | ---- |
| Louisiana | ---- |
| Maine | LSH |
| Maryland | ---- |
| Massachusetts | ---- |
| Michigan | LSH, SCA |
| Minnesota | ---- |
| Mississippi | ---- |
| Missouri | LSH |
| Montana | ---- |
| Nebraska | LSH |
| Nevada | ---- |
| New Hampshire | ---- |
| New Jersey | ---- |
| New Mexico | ---- |
| New York | ---- |

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| North Carolina | AUD, LSH |
| North Dakota | LSH |
| Ohio | ---- |
| Oklahoma | LSH |
| Oregon | LSH |
| Pennsylvania | LSH |
| Rhode Island | AUD, LSH |
| South Carolina | LSH |
| South Dakota | LSH |
| Tennessee | LSH |
| Texas | ---- |
| Utah | ---- |
| Vermont | ---- |
| Virginia | LSH |
| Washington | AUD, LSH |
| West Virginia | ---- |
| Wisconsin | LSH |
| Wyoming | LSH |

KEY

AUD = Audiology

LSH = Language, Speech and Hearing

SCA = Language, Speech and Hearing including Special
Class Authorization

---- = No equivalency